Volume 26
August 4, 1980

The TV-TS Tapestry

The TV-TS Tapestry is a publication of the Tiffany Club (a social and service organization for transvestites, transsexuals, and their friends and relatives). The subscription fee is $15.00 per year. For information, write or call: Tiffany Club, P.O. Box 426, North Hampton, NH 03862.

MONTHLY REPORT: July is the worst month for cross-dressers; hot, muggy, buggy and generally yccch! July was certainly all of that, yet we averaged 10 to 15 people for our Tuesday and Saturday evening get-togethers, and gained 13 new members. Best of all though is we gained Virginia, Liz and Janet. We couldn't ask for three nicer people or more supportive members. (And yes Janet, you are pretty.)

Despite the hot sticky weather our business meeting went on as scheduled. Besides the regular members of the Board, Judy, Christie, Janet and Elizabeth also attended. Thank you girls, your interest and contribution is very important. The topics of discussion were: 1) As you may know, Diane is working on our application for tax deductible status, so much of the discussion was centered on the wording of our charter, what has to be done, etc. 2) Price changes in our membership were discussed, and more realistic fees of $25.00 for Special and Subscriber members, and $240.00 for General members were agreed upon. (These changes do not affect the agreements made prior to August 1.) 3) As we are rapidly outgrowing our present facilities, a great deal of discussion was centered around relocations; where, how much space do we need, how much can we afford, how to approach realtors, etc. I know girls, our present facilities are comfortable and convenient, but the house is for sale, we do not want to buy it, and its just too small. Time to move. 4) Elizabeth submitted a proposal for a Tiffany Club logo. Her proposal was neat, simple, attractive, and representative of Tiffany's objectives.

LIZ

JANET

VIRGINIA

MONTHLY REPORT CONT.

After a lengthy discussion (about three seconds) it was accepted.

Because of the weather, we had no special programs scheduled for July. However, things seem to happen whether we plan for them or not. This month's suprise was Barbara and Marie from Florence's Dress Shop in Wakefield. My first reaction when they came to the door was "My God you're beautiful. Are you sure you have the right place?" They had the right place, and the rest of the evening couldn't have been more pleasant. Their visit gave us all a chance to get to know one another, and become more familiar with each other's services. Besides having a dress shop that welcomes crossdressers, Barbara and Marie also offer private consulting services, on how to dress, use make-up, etc. (See notice in the Bulletin Board) Judging from their satisfied customers, and their appearance, these ladies know what they're doing.

Barbara and Marie, thank you for coming. It's nice to know and have confidence in people providing services to TVs. Tiffany will not hesitate in referring people to you.

LOVE, Merissa Sherrill Lynn

IN THIS ISSUE OF THE TAPESTRY

TIFFANY'S NEW LOGO
CAROLYN'S BOUTIQUE
A FABLE 1980 STYLE
by Dee Dee
FORUM - HEALTH, HAPPINESS, PEACE OF MIND
by Merissa Sherrill Lynn

The New TIFFANY CLUB LOGO

Our new logo was designed by Elizabeth Warburton. The masculine hand joined with the feminine hand and the rose represents the trinity of being, of being masculine, of being feminine, of being one with yourself and Nature. It is a beautiful logo, and representative of us all. It is a fine symbol for the Tiffany Club.

CAROLYN'S BOUTIQUE

CLOTHING

Attn TV's. Genuine satin & lace Frehch mini-maids outfit: Hat, garter, corset, lingerie, spikes, seamed hosiery etc. 662-4432 4-7

Have you seen this ad? Perhaps in the Phoenix? In the Bargain Hunter's Guide? Penny Pincher? Worcester Magazine? FI News, and God knows where else? The ad is Carolyn's.

Attn Tvs! Lady selling satin maids outfit, lingerie, rubber or satin corsets, seam hosiery spikes, sheer blouses, skirts dresses minis wigs etc. S-X XL & Tall sizes 662-4432 4-7 PM

Carolyn's enterprise is unique in New England. She caters to crossdressers exclusively, and works strictly one on one and by appointment. She knows the needs and the preferences of her customers, and structures her services and her inventory accordingly. She not only carries the usual assortment of sexy lingerie and shoes and maid's uniforms (which are custome built and top quality), but tastefully conservative street wear as well. She offers her customers, whether they be fetishists or serious minded crossdressers, a good selection of clothing and accessories and a wonderful opportunity to relax and enjoy their shopping experience.

Attn Tvs! Lady selling satin maids outfit, lingerie, rubber or satin corsets, seam hosiery spikes, sheer blouses, skirts dresses minis wigs etc. S-X XL & Tall sizes 662-4432 4-7 PM

CAROLYN'S BOUTIQUE, Cont.

Carolyn works from her apartment, so her enterprise is necessarily small, but the value of her service to the TV/TS community is unestimable. Where could a crossdresser, weary of crowded stores and unkind people, shop without fear, with privacy, and with the help of a special and understanding lady? What is it worth to not have to buy from a catalog, or to tell foolish lies to a salesclerk, or to try something on and see how it looks and how it fits before you buy? What would privacy and confidentiality be worth to a timid newcomer or a security conscious oldtimer? Again the value of Carolyn's service is unestimable.

CLOTHING

Attn TV's. Genuine satin & lace French mini-maids outfit: Hat, garter, corset, lingerie, spikes, seamed hosiery etc. 662-4432 4-7

How she came to be in this business is interesting, and suprisingly natural. Several years ago Carolyn bought a new wardrobe and advertised to sell her old one. One customer, a male, bought it all, claiming it was for his wife and daughter (as if we haven't heard that excuse before). Soon this person had Carolyn going shopping for him, and, as TVs are prone to do, then he disappeared leaving Carolyn with another closet full of unwanted clothes. So, she advertised again, but this time welcoming TVs. The response shocked her into realizing that she had stumbled into a pretty good business, and she has been selling clothing to crossdressers ever since.

Carolyn & Merissa

Carolyn's method of operation is this: She spends her days shopping, scavanging every sale in town. (Picture if you will Carolyn, who is by no means a small person, walking up to an astonished cashier with a 100 or so size 5, 6 and 7 panties, with 50 or 60 size 34B to 42D bras, and maybe a dozen or two dresses of varying sizes. The line of irate customers backs up to the restrooms while the cashier rings her through. If asked, her excuse is she works for a theater company. That's about as believable as the TV's standard, "They're for my wife." Motto: When in trouble, dazzle them with the unbelievable.) She then advertises anyplace that will accept her ad, waits for the inevitable deluge of calls, then sells her clothing at the original retail price. She makes her money, her customer receives an outstanding service without being 'ripped-off', and everyone's happy. That's good business, and customer satisfaction.

(She does have a $25.00 minimum purchase which is designed to keep the insincere people away. That's smart, for there are a lot of insincere people who take advantage, and it doesn't take many of them to wreck a good thing.)

The Tiffany Club supports Carolyn. She provides a very important service, and besides, we like her.

A FABLE 1980 STYLE
by Dee Dee

Sam and Agnes were fisherfolk. One day when they pulled up their net they found a strange fish. Sam said, "It's no good, I'll cut it up for bait."

"Wait," said the fish, "I'm a powerful spirit being punished for wrongdoing. Spare my life and I will grant you three wishes."

"What's to lose," said Sam, throwing the fish back into the water. What with all the work to do, by the time the fishing was over both had forgotten about the fish's promises.

FABLE, Cont.

Now, Agnes was a Class A wife and cooperated with Sam. However, she did want above all a new washing machine, a new fridge and a new stove. But, knowing Sam was doing his best didn't nag him for them.

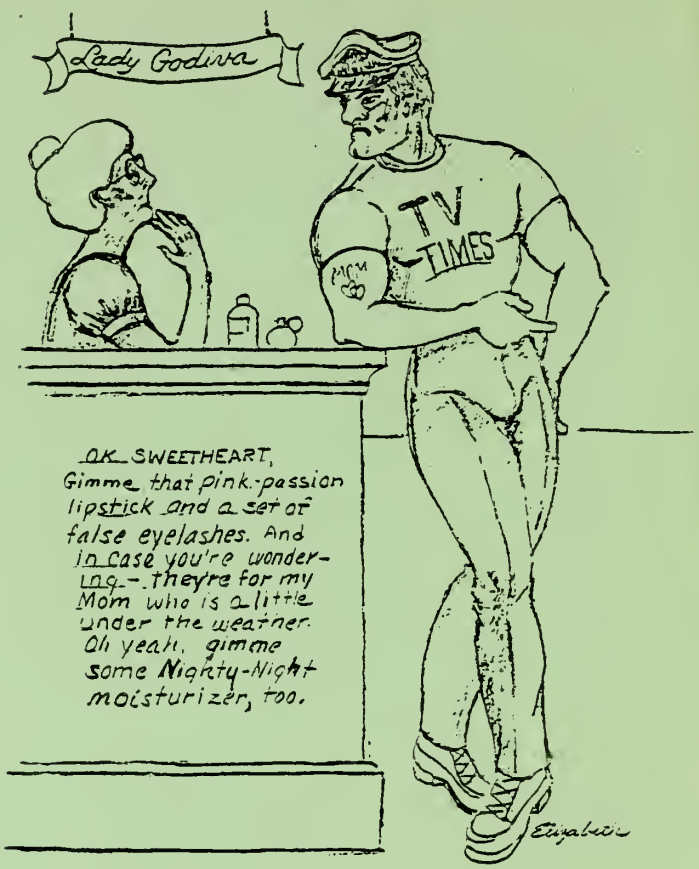
After supper, as usual, Sam was brosing thru a Lane Bryant catalog. Suddenly he said, "I wish I had a pair of black patent opera pumps with a six inch heel." Instantly, they appeared.

Agnes, realizing that the promises made by the fish were for real, saw at least one of her wishes go down the tube. "You dummy," she screamed at Sam, "We need all these things and you wish for high heels. I wish they were stuck on top of your dumb head."

Instantly the shoes were stuck on the top of Sam's head. Well, since Sam couldn't go thru life with a pair of six inch heel opera pumps stuck on his head, the only wish left was that they'd go away, and they disappeared. They had nothing.

MORAL: - A transvestite with a good wife ought to let her realize her wishes.

LIKELY STORY DEPT.



- COMING EVENTS -

TIFFANY CLUB 617-891-8022

OPEN MEETINGS 7-11 pm Tues. and Sat. Quiet and relaxed evenings among friends. Help with make-up and comportment upon request. BYOB BYOF FEES: Guests $6 per visit, Special members $5. per visit, Guest members, General and Key members no charge.

SUMMER EVENTS Summer is usually our lax period, so no major events are scheduled. The Bar-B-Q tentatively scheduled this August has been temporarily postponed (no people), and our private showing is still theoretically planned (if Kathy ever gets the movie).

BUSINESS MEETINGS 8pm the fourth Thursday of every month. All General and Key members interested in being actively involved are encouraged to attend.

PARTY September 20 or 27 (definite plans have yet to be worked out). This will be our end of the summer bash, and will probably follow the same format as our June party, which was so successful.

THE KAY MAYFLOWER SOCIETY 617-254-7389 ask for Kay

OPEN MEETINGS Every Wenesday from 7 to 11 pm

PARTY Last Saturday of every month. The August party will be held Aug. 23 to avoid Labor Day.

HARTFORD TVIC Meetings are normally scheduled for every second Saturday. However, since the destruction of TVIC's facilities, meetings are scheduled when locations can be found. For information contact: Patsy Marie Pichon, Box 180, West Hartford, Ct. 06107

COMING EVENTS, Cont.

XX CLUB OF HARTFORD Transsexual support. Meetings every second Saturday. For information contact: Rev. Clinton R. Jones, George W. Henry Foundation, 45 Church St., Hartford, Ct. 06103

JOYCE DEWHURST TV parties in the Queens NY area. For information contact: Joyce Dewhurst, Box 1105, Woodside, NY 11377 212-545-4073

CASEY TV parties in the mid-Long Island NY area. For information Contact: Casey, Box 708, N. Bellmore, NY 11710 516-584-7736

ALBANY TVIC Meetings every third Saturday. For information contact: William Thordsen, 1104 Broadway, Albany NY 12200

FUTURE PARTY DATES Sept. 20th, Oct. 18th (to be held in the Rochester area), Nov. 15th (to be held in the Boston area), and the Christmas party in Albany on Dec. 20th.

OUTREACH INTSTITUTE Box 368 Kenmore Sta., Boston Ma. 02215 617-277-3454

FALL FANTASIA FAIR Friday Oct. 17 through Sunday Oct. 26. Stay for all or part of the nine days, or just a weekend. FF is perhaps the finest TV function in the world. Applications are available through Outreach and the Tiffany Club.

MIDWEST SUMMER GALA August 15-17 1980 For information and reservations contact R. Hess, 431 Barry, Chicago Ill. 60657 Call Sharon 312-472-4518

SHANGRI LA Annual five day springtime TV event held in Gulfport, Miss. For information contact: Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine Ca. 92664

DREAM Annual five day early fall TV event held near Seattle, Wash. This year's event will be held Sept. 20-24. For information contact: DREAM, Box 58, 507 3rd Ave., Seattle Wash. 98104

TRI SIGMA New Orleans convention starting Monday, Sept. 22, and ending Sunday Sept. 28. For members of Tri Sigma only. For information contact: Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, Ca. 93275

GREEN APPLE LOUNGE Rt 1, Peabody Ma. 617-535-9840 Featuring New England's finest female impersonators 7 nights a week, 2 shows nightly at 9 and 11pm. Karl Houston MC (Request; use the rest room appropriate to your sex)

- BULLETIN BOARD -

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Jack's prices went up August 1, so if you need a new catalog, contact Jack and he will be happy to give you one.

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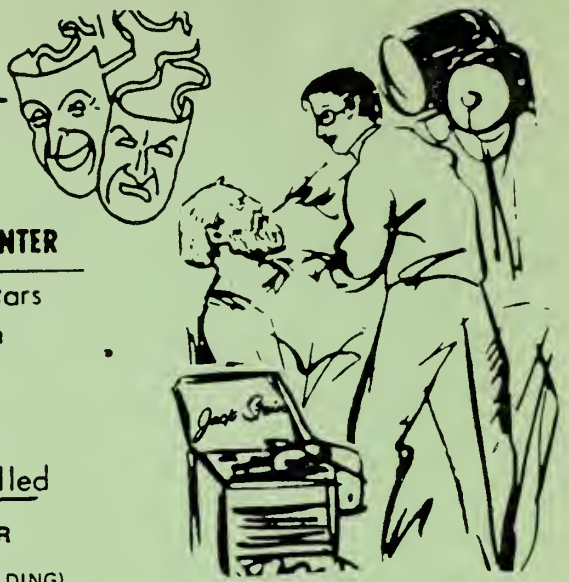

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Jack. Leo, Sophie, Dennis

- FORUM -

HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND PEACE OF MIND.
A Philosophical View

by
Merissa Sherrill Lynn

I am interested in the lives of people, all people, not just cross-dressers or gender dysphoric persons. Therefore, I have tried to develop a philosophy that is relevant and practical, a philosophy that can help people lead more satisfying and rewarding lives. This article is intended to help people establish an emotional and ethical objective, recognize the primary barriers to that objective, and develop the tools needed to overcome them.

The objective is to achieve health (physical well being), happiness (preferable state of mind), and peace of mind (ability to cope with and appreciate one's living experience). Health, happiness and peace of mind is a very real and achievable goal for the individual person, and a valid ethical standard by which to live.

I want to help people recognize the barriers to the achievement of these goals, and to give people the tools by which to overcome those barriers. Also, I want to help people create those conditions which would make it easier to achieve these goals. Those conditions would be to help people

WANTED BY TIFFANY

1) A pencil sharpener
2) Boutique items (clothes, wigs, shoes, lingerie, etc)
3) Stamps and envelopes (particularly .13¢ and .28¢ stamps, and legal and 9X12" manila envelopes)
4) 108 film for a polaroid land camera
5) Storage bags to sell to members
6) Somebody who knows something about real estate
7) A decent typewriter

FORUM, cont.

acknowledge how they fit into the overall scheme of things, in Nature, to recognize they have far greater responsibility and power over their lives than they may realize, and to establish a valid ethical system by which to live their lives.

I see two primary barriers; religion (namely the belief in a supernatural diety that defines morality, assigns meaning and gives man a sense of being more divine, of being more important than Nature itself), and society's masculine superiority complex.

As long as belief in an intelligent supernatural diety or dieties exists then people will have enormous difficulty in re-examining their value system. As long as there is belief in a supernatural power that assigns purpose and meaning, then people will have difficulty generating their own sense of purpose, meaning and harmony. As long as they are handicapped by this external authority, people will have difficulty acknowledging and using the responsibility and power people have over their own lives. People must be able to accept the responsibility for what they think, say, do and feel, and be able to generate for themselves a sense of purpose and a reason for being. God cannot do this for them.

Suppose there were no God. Without God there would be that that is, and that that is not; raw existence and nothingness. There would be a self-perpetuating eternal universe, a universe that does not need a supernatural intelligence to create it or to keep it going. That means the universe has no other purpose than to exist. I repeat...the universe has no other purpose than to exist, and niether does man. Any attempt to look for a purpose beyond that, becomes mindboggling and pointless. Since each person is an equal part of the universe, the only thing he needs to give himself a sense of purpose is the knowledge that he exists. For anything more than that, then it is strictly man's responsibility to create and define that purpose.

Purpose is not the same as meaning. Purpose is <u>a reason for being</u>, while meaning is a value judgment or <u>the value of being</u>. Actually, the term 'meaning' has two definitions. First it is an opinion, a value judgment (ie my life has meaning, the universe has meaning, this is the meaning I think my life has, etc) and secondly it is a practical tool of communication, a description, an explanation. Again, without God to assign meaning it becomes man's responsibility to assign meaning. A person who acknowledges and accepts that responsibility to assign purpose (reason for being) and meaning (value of being) to himself has the potential to develop a far more powerful sense of relevance and self-esteem than if he relied on an external reference (God, or simply another person) to do that for him.

Without the existence of an intelligent supernatural diety, it becomes easy to accept the idea that Nature is Being qua Being. It just is, that's all, and it doesn't need to be anything more than that. True the universe is awesome, at times overwhelming. True man cannot conceive of spacial or temporal infinity. True most people cannot conceive of a universe without a creator, without an all-knowing all-powerful being to keep it going. All this does not say that God exists, but that the belief in God exists because man cannot conceive of his not existing.

God exists for man, while man is the one species the universe can do best without. For the universe to fulfill its purpose, to exist, man is unnecessary, and so is God. If man doesn't learn to live in harmony with himself and Nature, the universe can better fulfill its purpose without him, and will through natural causes unceremoniously dissolve his existence. Man will have lost his reason for being.

Religion is a blinding destructive force, a force that keeps man from accepting that he is not above but unifies with, a part of and not separated from Nature. Religion is often a force that encourages man to manipulate, to control, and not to live in harmony. If man is to have religion, let that religion transcend God and be based on a love of, a respect and appreciation

FORUM, Cont.

Nature, and for himself. Let that religion not be based on a vengeful diety, on heaven and hell, or fear and human conceit, but let it be based on health, happiness, peace of mind and harmony.

When confronted with the awesome universe and things smaller and weaker than ourselves it is difficult to develop a sense of equality and harmony. It can be done. First a person must acknowledge his place in Nature, and recognize what is natural (part of Nature) and what is artificial (man-made).

First, the universe is a single infinity, a Oneness. Each existing person, each existing thing is an indespensible part of the whole. The universe is not a duality as many people would think, but an infinite plurality of monads (individual units, bits and pieces), and qualities (i.e. temperature, mass, shape, speed and color). It is the words used by man to describe these qualities that take on a dualistic nature (i.e. hot-cold, big-small, light-dark, fast-slow, strong-weak, active-passive, masculine-feminine, etc). Values, like words, are also man-made (good-bad, right-wrong, beautiful-ugly, superior-inferior, meaningful-meaningless, etc). Morality is a value judgment. Superiority is a value judgment. Meaning is a value judgment. Monads and qualities are natural and beyond man's value judgments. However, words and value judgments are artificial and well within man's control. Therin lies the key to health, happiness and peace of mind. Also therein lies the key to respect for other people's preferences, and to self-actualization.

Nature exists, and man has no control over existence. However, words and value judgments are strictly man-made, have relevance only to man, and each individual is the ultimate and absolute authority as to what words mean, and to judge the value of anyone, anything, and any act or idea. That gives each human being tremendous power, and perhaps for most people an overwhelming responsibility.

(It is not easy for a person to accept that power and responsibility. Religions and governments are created because of people's inability to take that responsibility. People reap the consequences.)

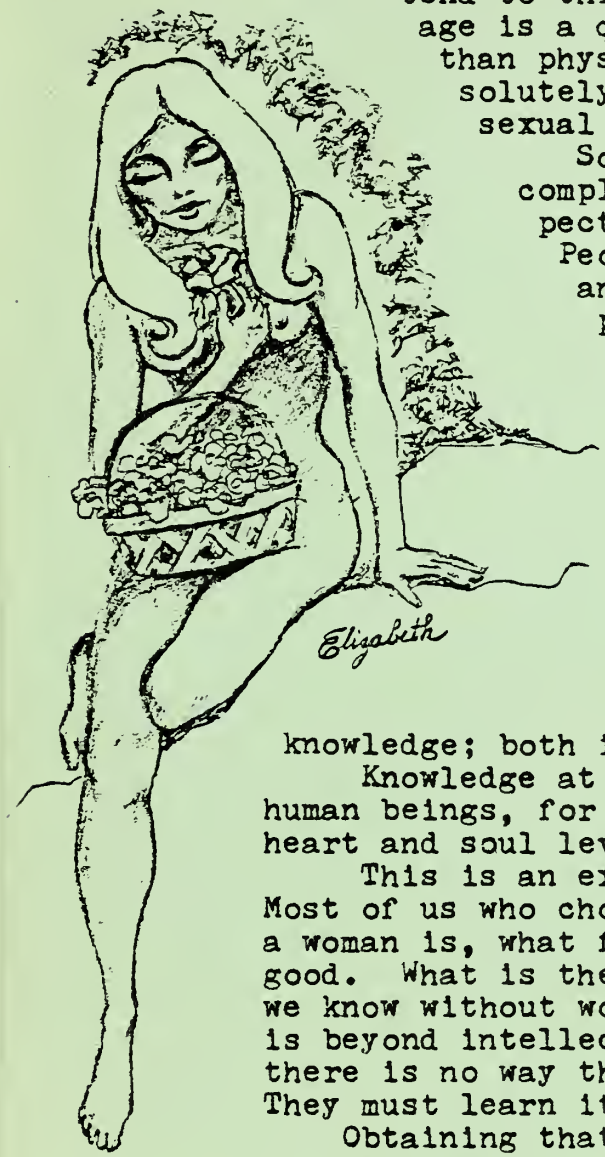
First a person acknowledges that the meaning of words and value judgments are man-make, and not God or government-made, and that he alone has the power to assign meaning and establish the ethical standard by which he will live. Then he recognizes that health, happiness and peace-of-mind is both an achievable goal for the individual, and a valid ethical standard for society in general. Then he decides in general terms who and what he wants to be, and vows to live up to his end of the ethical bargain. He then practices until his ethical standard becomes habit, and he becomes a self-actualized person.

Till now I've been talking about religion as a barrier, but there is another; society's masculine superiority complex.

Acknowledged; all people and things have different potentials and capabilities. What that means is everyone has their niche in the overall scheme of things. Everyone has a place in and is part of the integrated whole. No one is superior or inferior to anyone else; merely different. Monads and qualities exist in Nature. Value judgments do not. Those qualities we call masculine and feminine exist in Nature. Value judgments do not. Those qualities we call masculine and feminine exist in Nature. The values assigned to those qualities such as superior-inferior, right-wrong, good-bad, etc, do not.

Our culture seems to have a masculine superiority complex, and the damage is obvious. For instance, in our society it is more acceptable for females to express their masculinity than it is for males to express their femininity. Also, males inclined to express

FORUM, Cont.



their feminine qualities are extremely vulnerable to guilt, hatred and self-hatred, and fear, especially fear of social reprisal. Even Feminism is a masculine principle promoting economic equality but not emotional equality.

Also, our culture stresses courage, strength, and the ability to perform. Because of this superiority complex people tend to think of these qualities as masculine. In fact courage is a quality that has no gender, strength means far more than physical prowess, and ability to do the job has absolutely nothing to do with a person's biological make-up, sexual preference, or mode of dress.

So long as society has this masculine superiority complex people will continue to have unrealistic expectations of their friends, family, and neighbors. People will continue to have no capacity for tolerance and understanding, and will have a constant need to prove the masculinity of themselves, their community and their nation. People will continue to be unable to be themselves, to cope with the fear of failure or social reprisal, and will continue to suffer from stress, anxiety and unhappiness. The masculine superiority complex hurts everybody.

So, for crossdressers two of the greatest barriers to happiness, peace of mind, and freedom from social reprisal remain first a religious view of meaning and morality, and second the damnable masculine superiority complex. Those barriers can be overcome with knowledge; both intellectual knowledge, and intuitive knowledge.

Knowledge at the intuitive level is the most important for human beings, for it is at the intuitive level, the gut level, the heart and soul level that things and value judgments become valid.

This is an example of what I mean by intuitive knowledge. Most of us who choose to express our feminine selves 'know' what a woman is, what femininity is, and we 'know' that femininity is good. What is the nature of that knowing? We <u>feel</u> that knowledge, we know without words, without verbal description. That knowledge is beyond intellectual reasoning. It is felt, it is intuitive, and there is no way that type of knowledge can be passed on to others. They must learn it for themselves.

Obtaining that type of knowledge is a three step process: 1) acknowledgement, 2) intellectual, and 3) intuitive.

If I want my life to have meaning I must; 1) acknowledge that 'meaning' does not exist in Nature, and no one and no thing is going to give my life meaning; therefore I must do ity myself, 2) I learn how, and 3) I practive until I feel deep down in my soul that my life does in fact have meaning, have purpose, and have value. (Whether it does or not is unnecessary and unimportant. What is important is that I think and feel it does.

If I want to understand Nature, I must: 1) acknowledge that Nature is not something that can be understood with words, it must be experienced, 2) I learn how, perhaps using my own femininity as a tool, and 3) I experience Nature, develop a sense of Oneness, create and extraordinary ecstatic sensual high that transcends my individual being, my modality, my awareness so that I am unaware yet totally aware, aware absolutely. When I reach the natural euphoria I will be unable to explain, but I will know Nature, I will know myself, because I am being, I am. Also through that sense of being I will experience a sense of purpose, a reason for my being.

FORUM, Cont.

If a person wants to overcome a masculine superiority problem then he must: 1) acknowledge that he does have a masculine superiority problem, 2) understand the nature and the consequences of that problem and what he must do to overcome the problem, and 3) practice until the preferred state of mind is achieved.

Each human being is the architect of his or her own life. Each person is a work of art, and is the artist.

- END -

IF YOU CAN IMAGINE IT,
YOU CAN ACHIEVE IT.
IF YOU CAN DREAM IT,
YOU CAN BECOME IT.